

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A control method for controlling a load on a second system, the
2 method comprising:
3 receiving a service initiation request from a first system;
4 determining a load level of the load on the second system in response to the
5 service initiation request from the first system; and
6 generating, based upon the load level of the load on the second system
7 determined in response to the service initiation request from the first system, a ticket
8 containing an identifier associated with the service initiation request from the first system and
9 a service initiation period during which service can be provided by the second system to the
10 first system.

1 2. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the service initiation period is
2 selected to reduce overloading the second system to a load level beyond a permissible load
3 level.

1 3. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the first system has priority of
2 access to the second system during the service initiation period over a third system which
3 does not have a ticket corresponding to the service initiation period contained in the ticket of
4 the first system.

1 4. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising sending the ticket to
2 the first system.

1 5. A method as recited in claim 5 wherein the ticket is sent to the first
2 system as a cookie.

1 6. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising storing ticket
2 generating information of the generating step as a ticket generating history.

1 7. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising sending a wait
2 reduction notice to the first system if a service initiation time for the second system is
3 available earlier than indicated in the service initiation period contained in the ticket for the
4 first system.

1 8. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising initiating a service
2 request with the second system for the first system, if the load level of the load on the second
3 system determined in response to the service initiation request is below a preset threshold
4 load level, without generating a ticket.

1 9. A control method for controlling a load on a second system, the
2 method comprising:
3 receiving a service initiation request and a ticket from a first system, the ticket
4 containing an identifier associated with the service initiation request from the first system and
5 a service initiation period during which the first system has a priority of access for the first
6 system to the second system over a third system which does not have a ticket corresponding
7 to the service initiation period contained in the ticket of the first system; and
8 initiating a service request with the second system for the first system, if the
9 identifier is valid and if the service initiation request is received during the service initiation
10 period contained in the ticket.

1 10. A method as recited in claim 9 further comprising sending an error
2 message to the first system if the identifier is invalid or if the service initiation request is
3 received outside of the service initiation period contained in the ticket.

1 11. A method as recited in claim 10 further comprising, if the identifier is
2 invalid or if the service initiation request is received outside of the service initiation period
3 contained in the ticket:

4 determining a load level of the load on the second system in response to the
5 service initiation request from the first system;

6 initiating a service request with the second system for the first system, if the
7 load level of the load on the second system determined in response to the service initiation
8 request is below a preset threshold load level; and

9 generating, if the load level of the load on the second system determined in
10 response to the service initiation request is above the preset threshold load level, a ticket
11 containing an identifier associated with the service initiation request from the first system and
12 a service initiation period during which service can be provided by the second system to the
13 first system, based on the load level of the load on the second system determined in response
14 to the service initiation request from the first system.

12. A control method for controlling a load on a second system, the method comprising:
sending a first service initiation request from a first system to a ticket control system;
receiving from the ticket control system, in response to the first service initiation request, a ticket containing an identifier associated with the first service initiation request from the first system and a service initiation period during which service can be provided by the second system to the first system;
sending a second service initiation request with the identifier associated with the first service initiation request from the first system to the ticket control system; and
receiving service from the second system when the second service initiation request is sent by the first system within the service initiation period indicated by the ticket.

13. A method as recited in claim 12 wherein the ticket is sent with the second service initiation request from the first system to the ticket control system.

14. A control method for controlling a load on a second system, the method comprising:
receiving a request by the second system from a ticket control system requesting load information of the second system based on a service initiation request by a first system; and
sending the load information of the second system to the ticket control system, the load information to be used to determine a load level of the load on the second system and a time period during which service can be provided by the second system to the first system based on the load level of the load on the second system.

15. A method as recited in claim 14 further comprising:
receiving a service initiation request from the first system via the ticket control system in the time period during which service can be provided by the second system to the first system as determined based on the load level of the load on the second system; and
sending a service initiation response to the first system in response to the service initiation request.

16. A control system comprising:

2 a ticket issuing module that generates a ticket containing an identifier
3 associated with a first service initiation request received from a first system and a service
4 initiation period during which service can be provided by a second system to the first system;
5 and

6 a ticket control module that allows service initiation for the first system with
7 the second system when a second service initiation request is received from the first system
8 with the identifier associated with the first service initiation request during the service
9 initiation period.

1 17. A control system as recited in claim 16 wherein the service initiation
2 period is selected to reduce overloading the second system to a load level beyond a
3 permissible load level.

1 18. A control system comprising:
2 means for generating a ticket containing an identifier associated with a first
3 service initiation request from a first system and a service initiation period during which
4 service can be provided by a second system to the first system;
5 means for sending the ticket to the first system;
6 means for entering information relating to the ticket into a ticket management
7 database;
8 means for allowing service initiation if a second service initiation request is
9 received with the identifier associated with the first service initiation request from the first
10 system during a time within the service initiation period as entered into the ticket
11 management database; and
12 means for initiating a service request with the second system for the first
13 system if the service initiation is allowed.

1 19. A control system as recited in claim 18 further comprising means for
2 treating a third service initiation request containing an identifier which has not been entered
3 in the ticket management database in a manner as a new request with a lower priority than the
4 second service initiation request.

1 20. A computer-readable storage medium storing a control program for
2 controlling a load on a second system, the control program comprising:

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3 code for determining a load level of a load on the second system in response to
4 a service initiation request from a first system; and
5 code for generating, based upon the load level of the load on the second
6 system determined in response to the service initiation request from the first system, a ticket
7 containing an identifier associated with the service initiation request from the first system and
8 a service initiation period during which service can be provided by the second system to the
9 first system.